



—❧— 1905. —❧—

THE
Annual Report

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE
Rural District of Saint Faiths,

Together with the Report of the

SANITARY INSPECTOR.

ST. FAITHS UNION.

POPULATION : 12,914.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1905.

BIRTHS.

During the year 1905 there were 298 Births in the Union. This is equivalent to a Birth rate of 23·0 per 1000 of estimated population, as compared with 24·1 in the previous year, and with a Birth rate of 26·3 in rural England and Wales during the year 1905. This is the lowest Birth rate that has been registered in the district during the past ten years.

DEATHS.

The total number of Deaths registered in the district during the year was 222, which is equivalent to a gross Death rate of 17·1. 45 of this number, however, occurred amongst the inmates of the City Asylum at Hellesdon, and, therefore, amongst non-residents; by deducting these, the nett Death rate for the year is 13·7 per 1000, as compared with 15·0 in the year 1904. The Death rate from all causes in rural England and Wales during the year 1905 was 14·9 per 1000 living.

The infant mortality in the district still remains high. During the year 1905 the Death rate of infants under 1 year per 1000 Births was 134·2, as compared with 136·1 during the year 1904.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR ENGLAND & WALES, 1905.

	Annual Rates per 1000 Living.		Infant Mortality— Annual Death Rate of Infants under 1 Year per 1000 Births.
	Births.	Death from [all Causes.	
St. Faiths Union	23·0	13·7	134
England and Wales	27·2	15·2	128
76 great towns	28·2	15·7	140
141 smaller towns	26·9	14·4	132
England and Wales less the 217 towns	26·3	14·9	113

There were 9 deaths from Zymotic Diseases as compared with 20 during the previous year. There were 3 from Diphtheria, 1 from Typhoid Fever, and 5 from Influenza. There were 21 deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, of which number 11 occurred in the Hellesdon Asylum. There were 10 deaths due to Cancer, 14 to Heart Disease, 8 were Premature Births, and there were 2 Suicides.

There were 12 deaths registered in which the cause of death was not certified by a medical man, and in 11 instances a Coroner's inquest was held.

MORTALITY AT DIFFERENT AGES IN THE WHOLE DISTRICT
PER 1000 ESTIMATED INHABITANTS.

	1905.	1904
Under 1 year	3·1	3·2
1 year to 5 years	0·6	1·4
5 „ „ 15 „	0·1	0·7
15 „ „ 25 „	1 0	0·8
25 „ „ 65 „	4·6	4·5
65 „ „ and upwards	7·5	7·0

INFANT MORTALITY.

DEATHS UNDER 1 YEAR TO 1000 BIRTHS.

	1905.	1904.	Average for past 10 years.
Whole District	134	136	127

In the Parish of Sprowston there were 8 deaths in infants under 1 year, with a registration of 72 births.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES Notified and Deaths.

Owing to an epidemic of Diphtheria in the parish of Drayton during the Autumn, the number of cases of Infectious Disease notified to me during the year under the Infectious

Diseases Notification Act, 1899, was larger than usual. In all, I received 54 notifications. Of this number 31 were cases of Diphtheria, mostly in the parish of Drayton. There were 13 cases of Scarlet Fever; 2 cases of Enteric Fever; 2 cases of Puerperal Fever; and 6 cases of Erysipelas.

In the following table are shown the number and nature of the cases of Zymotic Disease that occurred during the year:—

			Notified.	Deaths.
*Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	13	—
*Diphtheria ..	...	...	31	3
*Enteric Fever ...	...	...	2	1
*Puerperal Fever	...	..	2	1
*Erysipelas ...	...	...	6	—
Epidemic Influenza	...	...	—	5
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	..		—	6
			<hr/> 54	<hr/> 14

* Notifiable Diseases.

There were 21 deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, of which 11 occurred in the Hellesdon Asylum; and from other forms of Tuberculosis there were 6 deaths, mostly in infants.

DEATH RATE FROM PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS PER 1000 INHABITANTS.

	1905.	...	1904.
Whole District (excluding City Asylum)	0·7	...	0·8

DEATH RATE FROM CANCER PER 1000 INHABITANTS.

	1905.	...	1904.
Whole District (excluding City Asylum)	0·7	..	0·9

DIPHTHERIA :—31 cases.

27 of these occurred in the parish of Drayton. At the beginning of October I received information from the Schoolmaster of the village that there were several absentees owing to sore throats amongst the children. I immediately made a visit to investigate these, and found that several children were suffering from Diphtheria, and that many others had had it; but that none of the parents had considered their children sufficiently ill to call in medical advice. It was impossible to say where the infection started, but it was quite evident that it was disseminated through the medium of the school, which I immediately closed. This school has more than once

been reported adversely upon by H.M. School Inspectors, and short of enlarging the building, or providing an entirely new building, I fail to see how the over-crowding difficulty that now exists there, can be remedied. I made several suggestions to the Managers for alterations to the ventilation and lighting of the school; also to the School Offices, that it might continue to be used until some larger scheme might be taken in hand, and in the main they have carried out my suggestions, and I understand that plans for enlargement are now under discussion between the Managers and the Education Committee of the Norfolk County Council. Every assistance was given by the Parishioners of Drayton itself in combatting this outbreak of Diphtheria—they supplying at their own cost two trained Nurses.

The Council also adopted my recommendation that they should defray the expense of Diphtheria Antitoxin in all cases where the families were unable themselves to pay their doctor for the use of this valuable remedy, which I am glad to say the medical men in attendance used freely with satisfactory results.

- 1 at Morton-on-the-Hill. This was a very mild case, by careful isolation no others in the village contracted the disease.
- 2 at Catton. At the house of one of these, in Dixon's Loke, was found a large bin into which emptied two privies, and which was always getting filled up with rain water. This bin has now been done away with and replaced by pans.

The other case was removed to the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital.

- 1 at Sprowston in Mud Row. It is very satisfactory to be able to report that since this property has changed hands the present owner, Mr. James Hooper, has had a good system of drainage laid, which leads to a dead well, far removed from the cottages, which can now be, and is, periodically cleaned out by the owner without causing any nuisance to the inhabitants.

ERYSIPELAS :—6 cases.

This is a disease of which there are always a few sporadic cases occurring in the district during the year, but from which last year no deaths occurred.

SCARLET FEVER :—13 cases.

5 at Honingham, all in one family. By seeing that his instructions as regards isolation were carefully carried out, Dr. Deacon was able to prevent the spread of the infection to others in the village.

1 at Weston in a child aged 5. Here again the infection was kept from the rest of the village.

4 at Wroxham, all in one family.

2 at Sprowston.

1 at St Faiths, at the Heath Farm Cottage. This case occurred at the beginning of the year, there being a case of Scarlet Fever in the house when the year commenced.

TYPHOID FEVER :—2 cases.

It is satisfactory to have to record only 2 cases of this disease in the whole district during the past 12 months. One of these cases occurred in a cottage at Salhouse. It was a doubtful case, and the only likely source of infection I could discover was the privy, which has now been put into a sanitary condition.

The other case occurred at Black Horse Row, Sprowston. An improvement has been effected by Mr. Morris, the owner of the property. An additional dead well has been made, thus preventing an overflow which hitherto has been a great trouble at times.

PUERPERAL FEVER :—2 cases.

1 at Crostwick.

1 at Sprowston. This patient was attended, so I was informed, by a midwife named Mrs. Buck. I consequently wrote to the Clerk of the Norfolk County Council requesting that she should be suspended from practice for at least one month, and this request was complied with.

EPIDEMIC INFLUENZA :—

5 old people died of this disease in the early part of the year, but the disease was at no time epidemic during the year.

EPIDEMIC DIARRHŒA AND ENTERITIS :—

6 infants under 1 year died from these causes.

LIST OF SCHOOLS CLOSED IN THE ST. FAITHS DISTRICT
DURING THE YEAR 1905.

Name of School	Period Closed.	In consequence of
Drayton	October 12th to November 12th	Diphtheria.

As soon as I advised the closing of this school I forthwith notified the fact to the Local Government Board.

METEOROLOGICAL NOTES.

I am again indebted to Mr. Arthur W. Preston, F. R. Met. Soc., for the following record of his observations made during the year at Brundall and Eaton, as explained in his footnote.

Barometer (reduced to sea level and 32 deg. Fah.), from 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. readings :—

Highest (January 29th)	...	30·87 ins.
Lowest (November 26th)	...	28·91 ins.
Mean ... ..	...	29·978 ins.

			Deg.
Temperature—Maximum (July 14th)	...	...	82·6
Minimum—			
In Screen (Jan. 2nd)	...	...	21·4
On grass (Jan. 2nd)	...	...	15·8
Mean daily maximum	..	...	55·8
Mean daily minimum	...	...	42·2
Mean temperature of year		...	49 0
Mean daily range ...	...	...	13·6
Mean dry bulb (9 a.m.)	...	...	49·8
Mean wet bulb (9 a.m.)	..	...	47·1
Mean dew point (9 a.m.)	...	...	44·3
Mean relative humidity (9 a.m.)	...		83 p.c.
No. of nights with frost—In screen	...	...	52
On grass	...	...	103

			Inches.
Rainfall— Total fall	...	...	22·96
Below average by	...	...	3·22
Greatest fall in one day (Sept. 24th)	...		1·05
No. of days on which rain or snow fell			205
No. of days on which snow fell	...		15

Wind—Prevailing directions W., N.W., S.W. Gales on 20 days.

NOTES ON THE YEAR.

The mean temperature of the year was 0·4 deg. above the average. The warmest months (relatively) were February, March, and July, and the coldest October and November. The other months approximated the average. The rainfall of the year was about $3\frac{1}{4}$ ins. below the mean, but an $1\frac{1}{2}$ ins. in excess of that of the previous year. June and October were the wettest months, but the rainfall of January and July was less than 1 in., and that of December but slightly exceeded that quantity. The winter was mild, and the spring variable. The summer was a remarkably fine one, with a steady heat throughout, without exhibiting any great extremes. The autumn was generally cold and chilly, and unusually damp. Harvest commenced about August 2nd. The fruit crop generally fell far short of the fine display of the previous year.

N.B.—The above observations were taken at Brundall, Norfolk, from January 1st to September 30th, afterwards (rainfall excepted) at Eaton, Norwich. The rainfall results throughout the year are given from Brundall. The instruments had their periodical inspection on September 6th from the Royal Meteorological Society's Inspector, who also viewed the new station at Eaton, with which he expressed his satisfaction.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

Month.	TEMPERATURE.			RAINFALL.			
	Max. deg.	Min. deg.	Mean daily range. deg.	Mean deg.	Total ins.	Days with rain.	Greatest fall on 1 day. ins.
Jan. ...	52·0	21·4	10·4	37·7	·93	15	·47
Feb. ...	53·8	26·8	10·2	40·5	1·43	19	·23
Mar. ...	60·0	24·0	14·5	45·4	1·82	21	·27
April ...	64·0	27·0	13·3	45·5	2·06	24	·36
May ...	80·2	33·6	17·0	51·7	1·41	12	·69
June ...	77·3	42·6	16·2	59·8	3·13	16	1·00
July ...	82·6	48·8	18·2	65·5	·65	6	·19
Aug. ...	77·2	46·0	17·6	61·0	2·27	18	·64
Sept. ...	74·0	41·0	14·4	56·7	2·02	13	1·05
Oct. ...	58·4	28·8	12·3	44·8	4·14	26	·48
Nov. ...	54·2	23·6	10·5	41·0	1·95	19	·55
Dec. ...	55·4	28·4	8·4	39·0	1·15	16	·34
Year ...	82·6	21·4	13·6	49·0	22·96	205	1·05

COMPARATIVE TABLE.

Year.	TEMPERATURE.			RAINFALL.			
	Max. deg.	Min. deg.	Mean daily range deg.	Mean deg.	Total ins.	Days with rain.	Greatest fall on 1 day. ins.
1895	81·0	4·0	14·9	48·4	24·91	193	1·18
1896	85·0	24·2	14·1	49·3	23·28	190	·89
1897	85·0	21·2	14·3	49·4	22·07	192	·92
1898	89·0	22·4	14·0	50·5	23·33	166	1·80
1899	87·0	13·0	15·0	49·8	23·94	174	1·14
1900	87·2	18·4	14·2	49·6	26·99	222	1·23
1901	83·5	9·2	14·6	48·8	21·06	175	1·60
1902	83·4	14·0	13·5	48·4	22·30	192	·80
1903	86·0	24·8	13·4	49·5	29·44	208	2·28
1904	87·6	21·0	14·4	49·3	21·50	180	·60
1905	82·6	21·4	13·6	49·0	22·96	205	1·05

Mr. T. Cozens-Hardy, of Oak Lodge, Sprowston, has kindly supplied me with the following observations made by him during the year 1905 :—

RAINFALL IN 1905.

RAIN GAUGE.

Diameter of Funnel, 5 ins.

Height { Above Ground, 1 ft.

of Top { Above Sea Level, 101 ft.

Month.	Total Depth. ins.		Greatest fall in 24 hrs.			No. of Days on which .01 or more fell.		
			Depth.		Date.			
January	...	·86	...	·48	...	16th	...	13
February	...	1·52	...	·29	...	19th	...	19
March	...	1·81	...	·24	...	10th	...	24
April	...	2·20	...	·35	...	10th	...	24
May	...	1·40	...	·58	...	1st	...	11
June	...	3·17	...	·85	...	17th	...	13
July	..	·95	...	·32	...	26th	...	8
August	...	2·62	...	·77	...	29th	...	15
September		2·42	...	1·40	...	24th	...	15
October	.	4·21	...	·56	...	4th	..	29
November		2·16	...	·49	..	11th	...	19
December	...	·97	...	·30	...	7th	..	14
Total		24 29						204

Mr. Cozens-Hardy adds :—" The Rainfall for 1905 was about $\frac{1}{4}$ in. below the average for the last 65 years, but $4\frac{1}{4}$ ins. above that of 1904. January, July, and December were very dry ; June and October very wet. Harvest was completed in many districts by August 19th. There was no snow in January, but a rather heavy fall in February."

During the year I have, in company with my Inspector, visited most places in the District, and the following are some of the more important matters that have come under my observation :—

Catton :—At " the Grove " (occupier, Dr. Osburne). A new system of drainage to properly cemented tank, and overflow tanks some 200 yards from the roads and buildings has been installed.

Miss Millard (owner and occupier). Hitherto there has been a nuisance arising from a dead well in the grounds of this house, which has now been obviated by the laying of a drain about 150 yards long, which takes the sewerage quite away from the roads and buildings.

Sprowston :—A good deal has been done in this parish during the last few years, and considering that during the past 12 months only 1 case of Typhoid Fever and one case of Diphtheria occurred in the parish, it would seem that the large share of attention that it receives at Mr. Fox's hands is beginning to have its effect.

As the result of inspection, 3 Dairies have been properly drained, better ventilated, and, I hope, the owners convinced that periodic lime washing conduces to the well-being of their cows.

A large number of people in the parish keep pigs, and in a few instances I have had to condemn the styes as being in too close proximity to dwelling-houses.

There are 2 small Laundries in the parish which I have inspected several times, but have nothing to report concerning them.

Wroxham :—An improvement to the drainage of the Laundry (Mr. Trafford, owner), has been carried out.

A new Class-room, well ventilated and lighted, has been added to the School during the year. The Managers have also in hand a scheme for improving the Lavatory accommodation at the School, which is desirable.

Horstead :—For several years past a serious nuisance has been existent in this parish from the fact that the drainage from about 16 Cottages and a Public-house has drained into the river. As the result of an enquiry held by the Council, the owners have been persuaded to provide cesspools or movaeble receptacles, and very shortly the whole new system will be completed.

Ringland :—During the year I have been obliged to condemn a Slaughter-house in this village, and a new one has been built, further removed from dwelling-houses. The water supply to the School was a matter engaging attention for several weeks, and at one time looked as if it would end in litigation, though happily the difficulty was finally settled more amicably. The School, a “Church School,” was built by the owner of the greater part of the parish, and a part of the School is let to the Schoolmistress as a dwelling-house. It came to my notice that the pump belonging to the School was out of working order, with the result that the Schoolmistress had to send for a distance of about 100 yards for all drinking water required either for herself or the School children. I met the agent of the property over the matter, but he refused to take any action, as also did the School Managers, when the subject was referred to them by the Education Committee of the Norfolk County Council. Finally, however, I am glad to be able to report that the agent effected the necessary repairs.

OVERCROWDING.

So long as the existing rigid building Bye-laws remain in force, I am afraid there is not much chance of inducing landlords to provide increased house accommodation in some of the more congested parts of the district.

During the year the following cases of overcrowding have been dealt with :—

At Hainford :—Mrs. Smithson, occupier, 2 bedrooms, 10 in the family, including a son, who brought a woman with 4 children to the house. The latter moved elsewhere.

At Wroxham :—John Meyers, occupier, 2 bedrooms, 10 children and 2 adults. Part of family removed to a house close by.

At Sprowston :—J. Mayes, occupier, 1 bedroom, 8 in family, partly made up of lodgers. Removed to Norwich.

W. L., occupier, 2 bedrooms. This man, who discarded his wife, was left with 7 children in the house. He then took another woman, with 6 more children, to live with him, total 15. The adjoining house was rented in addition to this already occupied.

At Drayton :—J. Applegate, occupier, 2 very small bedrooms. Parents and 8 children, 2 of whom were aged 21 and 25 respectively. Removed out of the district.

At Horstead :—F. Farrington, occupier, 2 small bedrooms. Parents and 9 children. Removed to another house.

BAKE OFFICES :—

These in the District have been inspected during the year, and now that the requirements of the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901, are becoming more generally known, I find that the necessary periodical whitewashing, etc., is being carried out.

COW SHEDS :—

Although great improvements have been effected in many instances during the last few years under this heading by the small farmers and others in the District, there still remain a few who, chiefly from ignorance and bias, cannot be persuaded to accept the principle of thorough ventilation, which is so essential for the well-being of cows kept under artificial conditions.

WATER SUPPLY :—

The diminished rainfall of the previous year— $4\frac{1}{2}$ ins. below the average—had a marked effect upon many of the wells, pits, and water courses in the District during the summer months, though no really serious results followed from this. And as regards Typhoid Fever, the District has been unusually free during the past 12 months, only 2 cases having occurred.

In closing this Report I have again to record with thanks the assistance I have invariably received at the hands of the medical men practising in the District; and appended in the Report of your Inspector of Nuisances a perusal of which cannot fail to impress you with the large amount of work he has been able to get carried out during the year.

SYDNEY H. LONG, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health.

37, St. Giles Street, Norwich,

February 10th, 1906.

January 30th, 1906.

SIR,

St. Faith's R.D.C

The following Nuisances were dealt with during the year 1905 :—

Drains cleaned out	...	...	...	57
New drains laid and repaired	...	...	...	18
Dead wells and cesspools emptied	...	...	...	74
Privies emptied and cleansed	...	...	...	296
„ repaired	...	...	...	30
„ converted to pans	...	...	...	17
„ new built	...	...	...	11
Heaps of manure removed	...	...	...	51
Houses and dangerous chimneys repaired	...	...	...	16
Pig styes cleaned out	...	...	...	11
„ removed	...	...	...	7
Filthy houses cleaned	...	...	...	8
Houses unfit for habitation	...	...	...	3
„ overcrowded dealt with	...	...	...	6
„ disinfected	...	...	...	26
Schools	...	...	...	2

DRINKING WATER.

New wells sunk	...	...	...	5
Wells cleaned out	...	...	...	11
Pumps repaired	...	...	...	8

NEW HOUSES BUILT.

Catton	...	...	...	6
Drayton	...	...	...	2
Hellesdon	2
Wroxham	6
Sprowston	10

HOUSES CONDEMNED BY M.O.H.

Brandiston	3
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NEW BAKE OFFICE.

Catton	1
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The Special Sanitary Committee met at Horstead June 30th and July 6th to inspect drainage.

I am, Sir,

Yours obediently,

THOS. FOX,

DR. S. H. LONG.

Inspector of Nuisances.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1905 and Previous Years.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births.		Total Deaths Registered in the District.				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District. 9.	Deaths of Non- residents registered in Public Institutions in the District. 10.	Nett Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.	
		Number. 3.	Rate.* 4.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.				Number. 11.	Rate.* 12.
				Number. 5.	Rate per 1000 Births registered. 6.	Number. 7.	Rate.* 8.				
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.
1895	12,380	383	30.9	42	109.7	178	14.1	...	...	178	14.1
1896	12,553	333	25.9	59	179.3	200	15.5	...	...	200	15.5
1897	12,616	364	28.3	48	131.8	178	13.7	...	...	178	13.7
1898	12,876	344	26.4	43	125.0	178	13.7	...	...	179	13.9
1899	13,067	331	24.9	36	108.7	154	11.8	...	...	154	11.8
1900	13,219	358	28.6	51	142.0	186	14.0	...	...	186	14.0
1901	12,559	298	23.8	33	110.7	178	14.2	47	37	141	11.2
1902	12,647	305	24.9	45	147.5	217	17.1	53	40	177	13.9
1903	12,753	321	25.1	26	81.0	213	16.7	57	43	170	13.3
1904	12,828	310	24.1	42	136.1	235	18.3	51	42	193	15.0
Averages for years 1895- 1904	12,749	334	26.3	42	127.1	191	14.9	52	40	175	13.6
1905	12,914	298	23.0	40	134.2	222	17.1	63	45	177	13.7

* Rates in columns 4, 8, and 12 calculated per 1000 of estimated population.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water) ... 48,304.
 Total Population at all ages ... 12,559 At Census of 1901.
 Number of Inhabited Houses ... 2,798 " "
 Average number of persons per house ... 4.5 " "

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1905.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.						Total Cases Notified in each Locality.	
	At Ages—Years.							
	At all Ages.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.	Whole District.	Sprowston Sub-District.
Diphtheria ...	31	5	15	4	7	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	6	...	...	..	5	1	...	...
Scarlet Fever ...	13	2	9	2	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever ...	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever ...	2	...	...	1	1	...	...	...
Totals ...	54	7	24	9	13	1	...	...

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during the year 1905.

Causes of Death.	Deaths in or belonging to whole District at subjoined Ages.							Deaths in or belonging to Localities (at all Ages).			Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Whole District.	Sprowston Sub-District.	Work-house.	
Diphtheria ..	3	...	2	...	1	...	...	3	...	...	...
Enteric Fever ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
Epidemic Influenza	5	...	...	...	...	1	4	5	...	...	...
Diarrhoea ...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Enteritis ...	5	5	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	...	...
Puerperal Fever	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...
Phthisis ...	21	...	...	...	6	14	1	9	...	1	12
Other Tubercular Diseases...	6	4	1	...	...	...	1	3	3	...	...
Cancer, Malignant Disease	10	...	...	...	...	6	4	8	2	...	...
Bronchitis ...	10	3	1	...	...	1	5	9	1	...	...
Pneumonia ...	7	1	2	...	...	2	2	3	4	...	...
Premature Birth	8	1	...	...	...	...	...	4	4	...	...
Heart Diseases ...	14	...	...	...	1	7	6	6	4	2	4
Accidents ...	4	...	...	1	...	1	2	3	1	...	...
Suicides ...	2	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	1	...	...
Senile Decay ...	55	...	...	...	...	1	54	25	4	12	26
Nervous Diseases	25	...	...	...	2	16	7	3	3	1	19
All other causes	44	19	2	1	2	10	10	39	3	1	2
All causes ...	222	41	8	2	14	60	97	126	33	17	63

